

DOCKET NO: 243144US3DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
MASAHIKO YAMADA, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN. :  
(Based on 10/102,837)  
FILED: HERewith :  
FOR: FUEL ASSEMBLY AND THIMBLE :  
SCREW OF THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.